

Amendments In the Claims

Please amend claims 1, 2, 9-11, 16-19 and 21 as follows:

1 1. **(Currently Amended)** A network verification tool (NVT) apparatus,
 2 comprising:
 3 a network under test;
 4 at least one probe network device coupled to the network under test, the at least
 5 one probe network device configured to host ~~hosting~~ at least one task
 6 type; and
 7 an NVT server coupled to the at least one probe network device, wherein
 8 the NVT server is configured to translate parameters entered by a user
 9 to instructions executable by the at least one probe network
 10 ~~device allows a user to create at least one task for the at least~~
 11 ~~one task type by entering parameters into a template for each~~
 12 ~~of the at least one task,~~
 13 the NVT server is configured to transmit the instructions ~~capable of~~
 14 ~~transmitting the at least one task~~ to the at least one probe
 15 network device hosting the task type, and
 16 the at least one probe network device is configured to execute ~~capable of~~
 17 ~~executing~~ a process corresponding to the at least one task type in
 18 response to the instructions.

1 2. **(Currently Amended)** The apparatus of claim 1 further comprising:
 2 an NVT client coupled to the NVT server, wherein
 3 the NVT client is configured to provide a ~~provides the~~ template to the
 4 user for entering the parameters, and
 5 the NVT client is configured to transmit the parameters to the NVT server.

1 3. **(Original)** The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the NVT server is coupled
 2 through an Ethernet control network and a communication server to the at least one probe
 3 network device.

1 4. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the at least one task type
2 includes at least one of a traffic generator, a traffic analyzer, a large network emulator, a
3 session emulator, a device query or a script task type.

1 5. (Original) The apparatus of claim 4, wherein the traffic generator is
2 compatible with at least one combination of a protocol, a media and an encapsulation,
3 wherein
4 the protocol is selected from the group consisting of IP, IPX, CLNS, Decnet,
5 XNS, AppleTalk, VINES, TCP, UDP, ICMP, and IGMP;
6 the media is selected from the group consisting of Ethernet, FDDI, Serial and
7 Token Ring; and
8 the encapsulation is selected from the group consisting of ARPA, SNAP, SAP,
9 Novell-Ether and HDLC.

1 6. (Original) The apparatus of Claim 4, wherein the session emulator task type is
2 selected from the group consisting of a multi-protocol session emulator, a LLC2 single
3 protocol session emulator, and a SDLC single protocol session emulator.

1 7. (Original) The apparatus of Claim 4, wherein the large network emulator task
2 type is selected from the group consisting of a BGP large network emulator, a EIGRP
3 large network emulator, an IP RIP large network emulator, an IPX RIP large network
4 emulator and an OSPF large network emulator.

1 8. (Original) The apparatus of Claim 4, wherein the device query task type is
2 selected from the group consisting of a query CPU, a query memory, a query IP route, a
3 query BGP task, a query EIGRP task, a query OSPF task, a query multi-protocol session
4 task, a query LLC2 single-protocol session task, a query SDLC single-protocol session
5 task, and a query traffic analyzer task.

1 9. (Currently Amended) A method of testing a network, comprising:
 2 providing a test network comprising a ~~having at least one~~ probe network device
 3 hosting a task type and further comprising a network under test
 4 coupled to the probe network device ~~coupled to a network under test,~~
 5 the at least one probe network device hosting at least one task type;
 6 providing a NVT server coupled to the ~~at least one~~ probe network device;
 7 ~~specifying at least one task by~~ entering the parameters for a task of the ~~the at~~
 8 least one task type into a template ~~for the at least one task;~~
 9 translating ~~converting~~ the parameters at least one task into instructions
 10 executable by the ~~at least one~~ probe network device, wherein
 11 said translating is performed using the NVT server;
 12 transferring the instructions to the ~~at least one~~ probe network device;
 13 executing the task type associated with the instructions on the ~~at least one~~ probe
 14 network device in order to form a process;
 15 monitoring the test network in order to determine performance, wherein
 16 said monitoring is performed using the process.

1 10. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 9, wherein entering the
 2 parameters for a task of the task type ~~specifying at least one task~~ includes
 3 coupling an NVT client to the NVT server,
 4 transmitting a collection of templates corresponding to the ~~at least one~~ task type
 5 to the NVT client,
 6 entering parameters into at least one of the collection of templates to form the at
 7 least one task, and
 8 transmitting the ~~at least one~~ task to the NVT server.

1 11. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 9, wherein the ~~at least one~~ task
 2 type includes at least one of a traffic generator, a traffic analyzer, a large network
 3 emulator, a session emulator, a device query or a script task type.

1 12. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 11, wherein the traffic generator
2 is compatible with at least one combination of a protocol, a media and an encapsulation,
3 wherein

4 the protocol is selected from the group consisting of IP, IPX, CLNS, Decnet,
5 XNS, AppleTalk, VINES, TCP, UDP, ICMP, and IGMP;

6 the media is selected from the group consisting of Ethernet, FDDI, Serial and
7 Token Ring; and

8 the encapsulation is selected from the group consisting of ARPA, SNAP, SAP,
9 Novell-Ether and HDLC.

1 13. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 11, wherein the session
2 emulator task type is selected from the group consisting of a multi-protocol session
3 emulator, a LLC2 single protocol session emulator, and a SDLC single protocol session
4 emulator.

1 14. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 11, wherein the large network
2 emulator task type is selected from the group consisting of a BGP large network
3 emulator, a EIGRP large network emulator, an IP RIP large network emulator, an IPX
4 RIP large network emulator and an OSPF large network emulator.

1 15. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 11, wherein the device query
2 task type is selected from the group consisting of a query CPU, a query memory, a query
3 IP route, a query BGP task, a query EIGRP task, a query OSPF task, a query multi-
4 protocol session task, a query LLC2 single-protocol session task, a query SDLC single-
5 protocol session task, and a query traffic analyzer task.

1 16. (**Currently Amended**) The method of Claim 11, wherein the NVT client
2 and the NVT server are coupled through the Internet and the collection of templates and
3 the ~~at least one~~ task are transmitted using JAVA/HTML processes.

1 17. (Currently Amended) A network testing method performed on a test
2 network having at least one network device coupled to an NVT server, the method
3 comprising:

4 forming ~~a at least one~~ task, the ~~at least one~~ task being formed by entering task
5 parameters into a task template;

6 **translating interpreting** the task parameters using the NVT server to form
7 executable instructions that can be transmitted to ~~a at least one~~ probe
8 network device that hosts a task code, wherein
9 the task code executes the executable instructions.

1 18. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 17, wherein the ~~at least one~~
2 task is selected from a group of tasks consisting of a traffic generator, a traffic analyzer, a
3 large network emulator, a session emulator, a device query or a script task.

1 19. (Currently Amended) A network verification test apparatus, comprising
2 computer instructions implemented on an NVT server for
3 sending task templates to a user;
4 receiving tasks formed by the user entering parameters into the task templates;
5 translating the tasks to task code **configured to be executed by one or more**
6 **probe network devices; and**
7 transmitting the task code to **the one or more** probe network devices.

1 20. (Original) The apparatus of Claim 19, wherein the task templates correspond
2 to task types, the task types chosen from a group consisting of a traffic generator, a traffic
3 analyzer, a large network emulator, a session emulator, a device query or a script task.

1 21. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of Claim 2 ~~[[1]]~~ wherein the NVT
2 server **is configured to transmit a collection of templates to the NVT client,**
3 **wherein allows a user NVT server produce[[s]] instructions using the parameters,**
4 **and wherein the instructions are included in the at least one task**
5 **the collection of templates comprises a corresponding template for each of**
6 **the at least one task types, and further comprises the template.**